

**March 15<sup>th</sup> 2023**

Dr. Dan Lyons  
Irish Anti-Vivisection Society

**RE: FOI Internal Review**

Dear Dr. Lyons,

I refer to your request for a Review dated 22 February 2023 of the RCSI Response dated 27 January 2023.

Pursuant to S.20 (1) of the FOI Act 2014, I have been delegated to perform this review.

Pursuant to S. 21(2)(b)(i) of the 2014 Act, I have amended the RCSI response to your FOI Request by addressing specifically the matters raised in your email dated 22 February 2023 as follows:

1. Medical College of Wisconsin was the only bidder
2. Please see attached Ethical Approval Letters (AUA 7441) 2020 and the latest annual renewal (2021) completed prior to completion of the study. The names have been redacted for personal safety considerations pursuant to S. 32.1(b) of the Act.
3. The Biomedical Resource Center (BRC) is a centralized 95,000 square foot animal facility located within the Medical College of Wisconsin campus. The BRC consists of 122 animal rooms, including 97 rodent rooms, and 72 support areas, a transgenic facility, animal procedure rooms, a diagnostic laboratory, necropsy rooms, feed storage and cage washing areas. Under the direction of Joseph Thulin, DVM, MS, DACLAM, the center employs 2 staff veterinarians, 4 veterinary technicians, 3 administrative staff and approximately 35 animal care technicians who care for the animals and maintain the animal rooms and support areas. The BRC follows the guidelines for humane standards for the health and welfare of animals used for biomedical purposes as defined by the Animal Welfare Act of 1966 (amended in 1970, 1976, and 1985), and the Health Research Extension Act of 1985. By maintaining high standards of laboratory animal care and use, the BRC has remained continuously accredited by the Association for the Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care (AAALAC) since 1968. AAALAC is a nonprofit corporation formed in 1965 by the leading US scientific and educational organizations to encourage optimal care for laboratory animals while providing a mechanism for self-regulation by the scientific community. The Medical College of Wisconsin also has an approved Animal Welfare Assurance number on file with the Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW), the organization responsible for making sure that the guidelines of the Health Research Extension Act are followed.

4. Please see attached the animal health records. The names and certain details have been redacted for personal safety considerations pursuant to S. 32.1(b) of the Act.
5. Please see RCSI Guidance for Pre-Clinical Research attached.

I am obliged to inform you that if you are dissatisfied with the RCSI Response, you may seek a review within 6 months from the Information Commissioner. RCSI hopes that will not be necessary and that all the information sought by you from RCSI in your FOI request has been provided. If you have any further queries, please let us know.

Yours sincerely



Barry Holmes

Director of Human Resources